GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:156
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2001
AUGMENTATION OF COTTON PRODUCTION
BHAWANA GAWALI (PATIL)

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of cotton in the cotton producing countries of the world is 550 kg. per hectare while in India, it is approximately 260 kilograms;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to augment the production per hectare of cotton in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFFERED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.156 DUE FOR REPLY ON 7TH MARCH, 2001.

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. The average yield of cotton lint in the country during 1996 to 1998 was 232 kg. per hectare as compared to world average of 565 kg. per hectare during above period. The yield of cotton lint in major cotton growing countries during 1996,1997 and 1998, were as below

Cotton lint Yield (Kg. per Ha.)

Country	1996	1997	1998
World	553	591	550
USA	792	762	692
China	890	1025	842
India	265	208	224
Uzbekistan	727	720	631
Argentina	446	338	353
Brazil	421	441	501

(c): In order to improve the yield and the quality of cotton, the Government of India has approved the implementation of a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Technology Mission on Cotton in January, 2000. The Mission consists of four Mini- Missions.The Mini-Mission-I on research is dealt by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for evolving newer and better varieties/technologies suited to different agro-climatic conditions of the country for improving the yield and quality of cotton.

The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is responsible for the implementation of Mini-Mission-II for enhancing production through the modification of on-going scheme of Intensive Cotton Development Programme.The Intensive Cotton Development Programme envisages to enhance production and productivity through various extension/developmental activities such as transfer of technologies by field demonstration/farmer training, supply of certified seeds of varieties released during last fifteen years, use of water saving devices like sprinkler and drip system, establishment of seed delinting machines and various activities of pest control including setting up of bio-agent production unit, surveillance, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) demonstration-cum-training, supply of sprayers/pheromone trap/bio-agents.

For protecting the interest of farmers, Minimum Support Price (MSP) is fixed each year in order to ensure remunerative price to

farmers.

The Ministry of Textiles is the nodal Ministry for implementation of Mini- Mission-III and Mini-Mission-IV.The Mini-Mission-III is meant for the development of marketing infrastructure by undertaking activities like construction of marketing yards, auction centers, grading facilities, laboratories for testing quality of cotton. The Mini-Mission-IV aims at upgradation and modernisation of ginning and pressing factories for the production of better quality cotton.